

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A modified serum albumin is provided which has been modified in the n-terminal region or binding region VI, such as through a truncation of at least one amino acid at the n-terminal end, so that it exhibits reduced or eliminated binding of trace metals such as nickel and/or copper. Other suitable modifications to this binding region include mutations such as an elongation or insertion which will be sufficient to disrupt the trace metal binding which is highest at this site. The modified albumin of the present invention is advantageous in that its binding to trace metals is reduced or eliminated, and it can thus be used more safely and effectively than unmodified albumin with a reduced or eliminated likelihood of causing an allergic reaction to the trace metal in the human being treated with the albumin composition.

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